



Tough Choices for Tough Times

“...the Iowa Department of Corrections is a recognized leader in cost-effective prison management...”

***– Public Works, Iowa Efficiencies Report
December 2009***

Presentation to the
Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee

John Baldwin, Director
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Iowa Rankings

- ▶ **Iowa ranks 49th in corrections spending.**
Only North Dakotans spent less per capita.

– *US Bureau of Justice Statistics*

- ▶ **Iowa ranks 40th in imprisonment rates.**

– *US Bureau of Justice Statistics*

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Commitment to EBP & Reentry

- ➡ Only in Iowa has the prison population declined as a result of a change in the way we do business rather than changes in state law.
- ➡ Our focus on successful offender reentry & evidence-based practices reduces recidivism & enhances public safety.

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Commitment to EBP & Reentry

- ➡ Currently the prison system operates at 112% of capacity.

- ➡ In FY2009 –
 - ✓ Probation, parole, work release & OWI revocations to prison decreased by 8.6%.
 - ✓ Prison population decreased by 3.2%.

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Past Budget Realities

- ▶ Between FY2001 and FY2009, three prison expansions & 451 new funded institution staff were authorized.
- ▶ During this same period the DOC and CBCs had a net decrease of 537 funded staff.

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Today's Tough Choices

- ➡ The DOC is over 95% General Fund.
- ➡ Across the board cuts affect General Fund agencies more dramatically & have a critical impact on staffing.

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Today's Tough Choices

- ➡ Staffing decisions directly impact security & staff and offender safety & must strike a delicate balance between:
 - ✓ Security (risk management)
 - ✓ Treatment & mental health (risk reduction)
 - ✓ Offender Reentry (risk reduction)

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Striking a Balance: Staffing

- ➡ Number of paid positions for prisons, community corrections & central office has decreased **174*** since the start of FY2010.

*in addition to 537 reduction in staff previously noted.

- ➡ Staffing reductions require consolidating prison living units:

- ✓ Fort Madison – **Farm 1 & Farm 3**
- ✓ Anamosa – LUA, LUD-B, **Luster Heights**
- ✓ Clarinda – SU4, **Lodge**
- ✓ Mitchellville – LU3, LU5
- ✓ Mt. Pleasant – W2B

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Striking a Balance: Prison Treatment Programs

- ▶ **Institutions: \$1.15 million reduction.**
 - ✓ 27 programs eliminated
 - ✓ 27 more reduced in size

- ▶ Treatment for substance abusers, sex offenders, mentally ill, batterers & others are affected, as are victim impact programs.

- ▶ **Violator Programs may close.**

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Striking a Balance: CBC Programs

- ▶ **Community Corrections: \$2.93 million reduction (general fund only).**
 - ✓ 6 programs eliminated
 - ✓ 24 more reduced
- ▶ Drug courts, offender reentry & programs for sex offenders, mentally ill, batterers & others are affected.
- ▶ Intensive supervision, specialized caseloads also affected.

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